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# Qaddafi's No. 2 man missing, may have fled into exile

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Abdel Salaam Jalloud, second-in-command to Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi, has been absent for two months, prompting speculation that he is either in trouble or has fled into exile.

He was last seen in Damascus in November, while negotiating with the Syrian government on the fate of Palestinian camps besieged by pro-Syrian Lebanese militias.

Col. Qaddafi, a supporter of radical Palestinian guerrillas, has been increasingly at odds with Syrian President Hafez Assad over his iron-

fisted treatment of the Palestinians.

While Libya, Syria, and Iran are technically allies in the so-called radical entente, U.S. intelligence sources have detected signs of strain between Tripoli and Damascus.

These sources say Mr. Jalloud was sent to Damascus in late November to patch up the quarrel but has not yet returned to Tripoli. His exact whereabouts are unknown, and while he may still be in the Syrian capital continuing talks, there is growing speculation that he, too, has incurred Col. Qaddafi's wrath.

It would not be the first time.

In the 1970s, when Mr. Jalloud traveled widely throughout Europe

as Col. Qaddafi's moving ambassador, he was recalled to the austere environs of Tripoli for two years as punishment for being a playboy.

Col. Qaddafi reportedly was displeased with Mr. Jalloud's predilection for French blondes and gambling in London casinos.

More recently, Col. Qaddafi became angry over Mr. Jalloud's failure to obtain stronger support from the Soviet Union after the U.S. air raid on Libya last April.

U.S. intelligence sources say the Soviets lectured Mr. Jalloud about Col. Qaddafi's "unacceptable" behavior. When the Libyan leader learned that his deputy just sat there and listened, without defending him, he was so incensed he reportedly threw a water glass at his deputy.

Mr. Jalloud is the most pro-Soviet of Col. Qaddafi's associates, "Mr. U.S.S.R.," in the words of one U.S. official.

Analysts also believe the two men have had serious differences of opinion regarding Chad. Mr. Jalloud, they say, prefers a softer line toward the various factions in Chad and has resisted sending additional Libyan troops to that war-torn country.

Col. Qaddafi, on the other hand, has pressed the war against the gov-

ernment in southern Chad, 10,000 reinforcements to the Libyan contingent there alongside anti-government forces in northern Chad.

For whatever reason, Mr. Jalloud's absence from Tripoli is the first in his 18-year relationship with Col. Qaddafi.

Some analysts caution that Mr. Jalloud may still be negotiating with the Syrians about the Palestinians in Lebanon. Others believe he has had a permanent falling out with his boss and, for all practical purposes, is now in exile.

Still others say the quarrel may be as temporary as past differences.

Col. Qaddafi and his somewhat flamboyant No. 2

It's not uncommon for Qaddafi to see spats with his lieutenants. The one of them," said one administration official.

Those analysts who believe the rift is temporary point out that Mr. Jalloud has become nearly indispensable to Col. Qaddafi. Unlike the erratic colonel, Mr. Jalloud is far more consistent in his duties and supervises the regime's all-important revolutionary committees.

"Losing him would mean a break with Qaddafi's oldest political ally," one analyst said.